

CITY COMMISSION

Barbara Clark, Mayor
Carla Cole

Patricia Moore

William Norton

Warren Weaver

Meg Mullendore, City Manager

m.mullendore@cityofbuchanan.com

CITY DIRECTORY

City Hall 695-3844

Building Department 695-0011

Cemetery 695-3971

Code Enforcement 695-0006

Police Department 695-5120

Public Works 695-7547

Wastewater 695-5291

Water 695-3846

FREQUENTLY REQUESTED

PHONE NUMBERS

Animal Control 471-7531

Buchanan Schools 695-8400

Chamber 695-3291

County Courthouse 684-5274

Landfill 695-2500

District Library 695-3681

Post Office 1-800-275-8777

Reliable Disposal 1-800-677-1083

Secretary of State 1-888-767-6424

www.cityofbuchanan.com

FROM THE DESK OF THE CITY MANAGER

There are some changes here at City Hall I wanted to alert you to! We have a new website! It's the same address www.cityofbuchanan.com but completely revamped! We have been working for quite some time to present a functional, user friendly and attractive website and I believe we are there! You will find information that is easy to download including forms, codes, etc. We hope to eventually add the City Charter, City Code of Ordinances and the annual budget to the website, in an effort to make the site as user friendly and informative as possible. I have a City Manager's Blog on my page which will address and talk about issues, concerns and current events. This is designed to be interactive and allows for comments on the particular issues. If you see something missing from the site, please let us know; it is our intent to make this a community site that provides information at your fingertips. The other item I wanted to touch base with you on is the Stimulus Package (formally known as the American Recovery and Revitalization Act of 2009). The City will be a benefactor of these funds. How much is still unknown at this time but we believe it will be a substantial amount that goes to forgive a portion of the revenue bonds we will be issuing to cover the needed water and sewer plant upgrades. Currently we anticipate over \$1 million in forgiveness and possibly up to \$3 million; for the City its great news. There is more detailed information on this on the website in the city manager's blog. Life is and continues to be better here in Buchanan and we are constantly striving for ways in which to always keep life better here - so if you have something you think can do that, please let us know.

Meg

IT'S TIME FOR SPRING CLEANING!!

Buchanan's annual Spring Clean-Up Days will be held on Friday & Saturday, May 8th and May 9th, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Department of Public Works, 606 Clark Street. No refrigerators with freon, tires, or paint can be taken. This service is offered to residents at **NO CHARGE**. For more information, call 695-0006.

FLUSHING FIRE HYDRANTS

The Water Department will be flushing hydrants on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, April 6, 7 & 8, 2009. This procedure may stir up some sand or rust, causing a discoloration of the water. Residents should run their water to check for discoloration. Run the cold water until it is clear before using.

YARD WASTE PICK-UP

The City will pick up grass clippings, leaves, hedge trimmings or garden waste on a "pay per bag" basis in City approved, 30-gallon kraft paper bags, which can be purchased at City Hall for \$2.50 each. Pick-up will be on Mondays, from April 6th through October 26th. Residents must call the City's yard waste line at 695-2440 (24-hour answering machine) to request pick-up. **DO NOT PLACE LEAVES, GRASS CLIPPINGS, ETC. IN THE STREET.**

BRUSH PICK-UP

From Monday, April 6th through Monday, October 5th, the City will pick-up brush and limbs. Crews will make one pass through the City each month. Brush and limbs must be neatly stacked and laying in one direction on the tree lawn area, between the curb and sidewalk. Items will not be accepted if tied in bundles or if it exceeds 10 feet in length. No branches or tree trunks with a diameter greater than 4 inches will be collected. Tree stumps are not acceptable.

WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

A watershed is the area of land that catches rain and snow and drains or seeps into a marsh, stream, river, lake or groundwater. You are sitting in a watershed now.

Homes, farms, ranches, forests, small towns, big cities and more can make up watersheds. Some watersheds cross county, state and even international borders such as the Great Lakes Basin. Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes. Some are millions of square miles, others are just a few acres. Just as creeks drain into rivers, watersheds are nearly always part of a larger watershed or basin (the St. Joseph River Watershed is part of the Lake Michigan Watershed, which is part of the Great Lake Basin). Every stream, tributary or river has an associated watershed. Most watersheds are composed of a mixture of uplands, wetlands, riparian areas, streams and lakes. The most common component of almost all watersheds is the upland area, covering in many cases over 99% of the total watershed area. The rain and snow that falls onto a watershed and that does not evaporate, is stored in the soil and over a period of time is released down slope through groundwater, wetlands and streams. This water then moves through a network of drainage pathways, both underground and on the surface.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE BUCHANAN

COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there will be a School Election on Tuesday, May 5, 2009 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. to vote for one (1) position on the Buchanan School Board.

Precinct Locations: Precinct 1: City Hall, 302 N. Red Bud Trail; Precinct 2: Senior Center, 131 S. Oak Street.

THE FOLLOWING PERSONS HAVE FILED PETITIONS AND QUALIFIED AS A CANDIDATE FOR BUCHANAN SCHOOL BOARD AND WILL BE ON THE BALLOT:

Kay Welsh; David Richard Zelmer

The last day on which a person may register in order to be eligible to vote at the Buchanan School Election to be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2009, is Monday April 6, 2009.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the May 5, 2009 election has been scheduled for Friday April 24, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 302 N. Redbud Trail, Buchanan, MI. The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to determine that the program and the computer being used to tabulate the results of the election, counts the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

2009-2010 CITY COMMISSION PRIORITIES:

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- * Plan for future industrial & business attraction and expansion
- * Continue to pursue grant opportunities, improve the environmental responsiveness & resolve the Mill Race issue
- * Encourage tourism and support city festivities

PUBLIC SERVICES

- * Develop catch basin cleaning & replacement program
- * Develop preventative maintenance program of department equipment & buildings
- * Develop an Asset Management Plan for streets

PUBLIC SAFETY

- * Police Department to continue visibility and interaction with public
- * Maintain Code Enforcement efforts
- * Continue training police and firefighters, including Emergency Management
- * Maintain Zero Tolerance for illegal drugs within the community
- * Address and evaluate future medical needs of the community

RECREATION, PARKS, CULTURE

- * Continue McCoy's Creek Trail project
- * Support and enhance the Arts & Historical District
- * Enhance and market recreational opportunities
- * Return of 1863 old Pumper Truck
- * Promote & further develop Riverfront Park including boat launch

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

- * Hold Public Forums on community issues
- * Employees being ambassadors of the City
- * Communication and open dialog
- * Improve communications of the City Manager with the Public

COMMUNITY OF CHOICE

- * Continue to pursue development of Municipal Complex
- * Establish leadership role through collaboration & cooperation with intra-governmental units (i.e. Boards, Committees and Community Organizations)
- * Encourage current endeavors by recognizing & further identifying additional opportunities of Historical Significance
- * Establish collaborative efforts with DDA to address aesthetic concern of the District